

of, and the charge against, the accused,
together with his
plea of guilty or not guilty, and his sentence if
convicted.¹

According to the gaol book, at Winchester,
Salisbury,
Dorchester, Exeter, Taunton, and Wells, 1,388
persons
were indicted for high treason, of whom 1,381
were found
guilty or pleaded guilty, and 65 were
executed. These
were the figures in September 1685, when the
assize ended.
Another official return, dated November 1685,
shows an
increase in the number; 74 had by that
time been
executed for high treason in Dorset and n
in Devon.
Over a thousand persons were still in prison.
Of these
some 235 were under sentence of death, and
843 had been
made over to various persons for
transportation. It is
likely that all these 235 were not executed,
that many of
them were eventually transported instead,
and that some
of those who were sentenced to transportation
were allowed
to ransom themselves. Mr. Inderwick comes to
the con-
clusion that not more than 150 persons—less
than half the
figure given by Macaulay—were actually
executed by
process of law. As to the number transported
he holds it
impossible to give an exact estimate. Judging
from the
Calendar of Colonial State Papers there were
certainly
several hundreds, though not, apparently, so
many as 843.

No figures are available about the number of rebels summarily executed by the soldiery after the battle of Sedgemoor.

What transportation meant can be gathered from the narratives of some of the sufferers. Macaulay refers to the manuscript narrative of John Coad.² This was printed in 1849 under the title of *A Memorandum of the Wonderful Providences of God to a Poor Unworthy Creature*. Coad

¹ Pp. 370-1.

* II, 640 (v).